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Die römischen Grabaltäre der Kaiserzeit. Von WALTER ALTMANN. Berlin: Weidmannsche Buchhandlung, 1905. Pp. 306, with 208 illustrations in the text and 2 plates. M. 18.

This work is a significant product of the recently heightened interest in Roman art. It is devoted to a single class of sculptured monuments, the sepulchral altars found in or near the city of Rome. These Dr. Altmann has classified into groups according to the leading motives of their sculptured decoration. He has further attempted to date representative examples and so to trace the development of style in this class of monuments. The most favorable judge of the sculpture of the imperial period in Rome can scarcely claim high artistic merit for more than a few of these altars. Nevertheless Dr. Altmann's laborious work is an important contribution to the study of Roman art. It has to be added, however, that the book is marred by a lack of clearness in arrangement and presentation. Quite unsuited for a beginner, it is a mine for the advanced student to delve in.

F. B. TARBELL

Thesaurus Linguae Latinae Epigraphicae: A Dictionary of the Latin Inscriptions. By GEORGE N. OLCOTT. Rome: Loescher & Co.; New York: Lemcke & Buechner. Vol. I, fascs. 6-7 (ADTR-AES), 1906; fascs. 8-10 (AES-ALIG), 1907. Each fasc., \$0.50.

Fascicles 1-5 of Professor Olcott's painstaking and laborious *Dictionary of the Latin Inscriptions* were noticed in *Classical Philology* (I, pp. 420, 421) and the general plan of the lexicon there outlined. The editor continues to issue the parts of his work with nearly as great rapidity as he anticipated. Fascicles 6-10 advance the *Dictionary* 120 pages (pp. 121-240). The words which require extended treatment are *aedis*, *aedicula*, *aedilis*, *aerarium*, *aetas*, *aeternus*, *Africa*, *ager*, *ago*, and *ala*.

A comparison with the *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae* shows in a striking manner how some words are distinctively inscriptional and others are distinctively literary. *Aestas*, for example, occurs only seven times in inscriptions occupying one-third of a column in the *Dictionary*, but the word requires 6 columns in the *Thesaurus*. On the other hand *aeternus* requires 16 columns in the *Dictionary* but only 6 in the *Thesaurus*. So while *aetas* occurs frequently in inscriptions, the word *agmen* (found only once in inscriptions earlier than the sixth century A. D.), *aio*, *adfero*, *adfirmo*, which are common enough in literary Latin, are rarely seen in inscriptions. Those interested in orthographic research will examine the spellings of *aeneus* (*aheneus* until the time of Augustus), of *Aeduius*

(seven times, but only one occurrence of *Haeduus*), of *agnosco* (seven times, while *adgnosco* occurs twice), and of *Alexandrea* (*Alexandria* begins to appear in the first century A. D.), and they will speculate upon the significance of the spellings, *atvento*, *atviolo*, *atvivo*, and Ἀτβοκᾶτον, and of *afluo* and *afluentia* which forms alone occur in inscriptions by the side of the literary *affluo* and *affluentia*.

The reviewer has only the highest words of praise to express of the work done by Professor Olcott in these fascicles. They are marked by accuracy of method, and conciseness of diction and by an arrangement of material which reduces to a minimum the work of reference. Not only will the *Dictionary* be found in every great library but it will be of service also in private and college libraries for which the *Corpus* could not be purchased.

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